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THE Republican papers that howled loudest for civil-service reform during President Cleveland's Administration are serenely silent now.

THE Republicans celebrated the one hundred and fourteenth anniversary of the United States by putting liberty in chains.—Savannah News.

"God help the surplus!" said Corporal Tanner when he took the pension office. Tanner went, but his work is out done. The surplus is now past help.—New York World.

THERE are 147,000 Democrats in the State of Kansas, but the State of Kansas is represented in Congress by a solid Republican delegation. And in the face of such gerrymandering, Kansas Republicans prate about wanting a "free ballot and a fair count in the South!"—Huntingdon Democrat.

PERHAPS it would save time and trouble to pass one general pension law that every inhabitant of the United States shall have a pension of \$50 a month. That would be a glorious era. And the best of it is that the pensions would not cost our people anything, for do not the protectionist philosophers tell us that our taxes are paid by foreigners?—Boston Globe.

IN an interview with the Rochester Union, a Democratic paper, Bob Ingersoll says: "I believe in protecting what are called the infant industries, but after these 'infants' get to be 6 feet high and wear No. 12 boots it is about time to stop rocking the cradle, especially when the 'infant' tells you that if you stop rocking he will get out of the cradle and kick your head off."

THE enforcement of such a law as the proposed Federal election law will saddle upon the country an expense variously estimated at from \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000 for every election that is held. Are the people, in the present condition of the National finances, and in the depressed financial condition that they themselves are in prepared to spend this much money for a mere partisan luxury?—Washington Post.

A REPORTER for a Columbia, S. C., paper, who was sent out to investigate complaints about the census, asked the first fifty he met whether they had been counted. Forty-nine had not seen the enumerators. Some of the principal business houses have not been visited. The enumerators were all negroes, and many of them unacquainted with the city. And yet we have been told that the Republican party is the business-like party. It certainly seems to be its business to cause the South to make a poor showing in the census.—Memphis Avalanche.

IT has been more than seven months since the Fifty-first Congress convened, and yet, besides a number of insignificant and local measures, only one law has been enacted. That law is the statute providing for a dependent pension allowance. The main business thus far has been the addition of rotten Republican boroughs to the States of the Union, for the purpose of strengthening the Republican party in power, and of turning out Democratic members of both bodies in order to fill their places with Republicans who had previously been repudiated by their respective constituencies. The date of a possible adjournment is not yet visible.—Nashville American.

GENERAL NEWS.

Governor Nichols, of Louisiana, has vetoed the lottery bill.

Crops throughout South Dakota are better than ever before known.

Senator Sherman's large fortune yields him an annual income of 12 per cent.

Gross irregularities are charged in the census returns of San Francisco, Cal.

The Knights of Pythias are assembled in biennial conclave at Milwaukee, Wis.

The business portion of Iola, Ill., a small place, was entirely destroyed by fire the 6th instant.

The New Orleans custom-house sustained serious damage during a thunder storm the 7th instant.

Hot winds that have blown several days are occasioning grave fears for the corn crop of Kansas.

A cloud-burst in Richland County, Wis., the first of the week, occasioned a loss of more than \$200,000.

The first bale of new cotton was sold at Atlanta, Ga., the 5th instant. It was raised by negroes in Baker County, Ga.

The first coming together of the National Educational Assembly took place at St. Paul, Minn., the 8th instant. Fifteen thousand teachers are present.

Twenty-one horses tied to a wire fence at a funeral in Missouri the other day were knocked down by a streak of lightning which was traveling over the wire. Four of them were killed.

A bigamist now under arrest at Akron, Ohio, is said to have no less than seven wives. They live in various parts of the country, and he has married them all within the past ten years.

A prize of \$100 was offered by the Washington Post to the person guessing nearest the population of Washington City, and remarkable to say, three persons hit the exact number, 229,796. They agreed to divide the money.

The town of Fargo, N. D., was swept almost entirely away by a cyclone Monday morning. The telegraph wires leading to the place were blown down, and nothing official as to loss of life and property has been sent out.

A special train on the Illinois Central Railroad, carrying about six hundred members of Knights of Pythias en route to Milwaukee, Wis., was derailed at Manteno, Ill., Monday morning. One man was killed and fifty persons seriously injured.

At Knoxville, Tenn., last Sunday, William Kent shot and killed his mistress, Mrs. Lizzie Hatcher, and then killed himself. The deed was prompted by jealousy. Kent was a married man, and his wife and two children are in destitute circumstances.

Joe Smith, at Mount Hope, Ont., hoisted a United States flag over his residence last Friday in honor of the Fourth. He refused to remove it at the request his neighbors and they riddled the flag with bullets and divided the shreds among the crowd. Smith hoisted a second flag, and it met a similar fate.

The most wonderful discovery of gold ever heard of is reported from Tin Cup, Colo. It is said some of the dirt will yield \$20,000 worth of gold to the ton. Two men are now said to be taking out \$5,000 each per day. Excitement over the discovery is intense, and thousands of miners are rushing into the camp.

A Menace to Free Government.

New York World.]

Will this country consent that the political complexion of Congress shall be terminated at Washington? Shall Representatives be chosen by their constituents or be selected by the Speaker and the Republican National Committee, Matthew S. Quay, chairman?

This is the condition which confronts us. Party leaders who possess unlimited power will resort to crime when their ascendancy is threatened.

In 1877 the Republicans devised a plan for holding the federal offices by which the will of the people was thwarted. Grave judges of the Supreme Court were accomplices in the wicked conspiracy. Within the present year, in order to hold at least one branch of the legislative department, the majority of the United States Senate has voted for the admission of Territories to Statehood which do not cast as many votes as a single assembly district of this city. In order to increase the Republican majority in the House, arbitrary power has been bestowed upon the Speaker, and the Representatives of the people have been robbed of their right to debate and deliberate. Under this power Mr. Reed has driven out of Congress Representatives elected by the people, and has seated in their stead their defeated opponents.

Suppose that such a law as that proposed in the Lodge-Rowell bill had been on the statute-books in 1856? Slavery was threatened and the rule of the Southern Democracy was doomed. But the courts were in their hands. The supervisors of elections would have been their tools. The emissaries of the party would have had the right to search the houses of citizens, to drive them from the polls, to haul them before juries composed entirely of their political adversaries, to count their votes and to certify to a partisan clerk of the House the names of the men elected. Slavery would have lived, free government would have died, and despotism would have triumphed.

Concentrated power means tyranny. Diffused power means liberty. If we are to preserve that, each district must choose its Representative untrammelled and each State must certify the result.

Some Sensible Advice.

Nashville American.]

Major Vanderford, of the office of the Commissioner of Agriculture, yesterday afternoon remarked that the outlook for a good corn crop this year is rather poor at the present time. He said: "This year is very much like the years of 1883 and 1884 and also like the year 1874. The years are distinguished for the fact that they had an unusually large rainfall in the spring, and were very hot and dry in the summer. This year so far resembles them. There was a heavy rainfall in the spring and June falls considerably short of its average. During the years mentioned the corn was light all over the State and in many parts was almost a complete failure. Places having good crops had them by reason of local showers. This statement is not made so much as a prediction as it is for the benefit of the farmers that they may guard themselves as much as possible by right cultivation against the dryness of the season, for the effects of a dry season can, to a certain extent, be

overcome by right methods of cultivation. In such seasons it will not do to lay-by the corn crop so early. The surface of the ground should be stirred. It must not be plowed to any depth so as to reach and dry out or cut the roots, but let the surface be stirred lightly. The reason that the surface should be stirred is this, a finely comminuted surface absorbs and holds the moisture or dew deposited on it at night. The hotter the air the more moisture it contains. Now the plowed or stirred surface does not retain its heat so long at night as does the baked, smooth surface of soil, and, parting with its heat sooner, it becomes cooler than the surrounding air quicker than the unstirred land does, and consequently has a longer time during the night in which to absorb moisture. Not only this, but the finely comminuted ground actually presents more surface than the smooth, baked soil, and therefore takes up more of the water deposited at night. The dew falling on a hard, dry surface, falls as it does on a rock, is immediately absorbed and is used cooling that surface off. The stirred surface has already become cool, and the dew falling on it is absorbed and sinks in it to assist the growth of the plant. This is no mere theorizing. It is founded on reason, as any one can see. Not only that, but it has been put to a practical test by many others beside myself. I tried it on my own place in 1883, and had about the only crop of corn that was of any account in the neighborhood. My neighbors all failed to raise enough to meet their own wants, and had to buy, while I raised sufficient to do me and had some to spare. I attribute this mostly to the fact that I stirred my ground lightly after they laid-by their corn."

Public Roads.

Selected.]

If there is anything that Tennessee needs more than a betterment in her public roads I do not know what it is. Our roads would be a disgrace to Texas, Mexico, the Indian Territory, or any other country.

It is not our intention to abuse the laws we have, or the manner in which they are executed. This would not remedy evil or give us better roads, and better roads is what we want and must have, if our section of the country is ever what it can and ought to be. To get this we need to arouse public interest upon the subject, an interest that will work a revolution, and we must have legislation of the wise sort before this desired end can be attained. We have no system or bill formulated, but we hope that the people will take the matter in hand and have some system matured by the time our solons meet again, and use their influence to have it enacted.

We will state a few reasons why this enterprise should be pushed vigorously, until a system of good roads is secured to our country. It would pay to build good roads in the saving of stock and wagons, and the gain this way in five years would amount to enough to macadamize the leading thoroughfares of the country. With well graded, properly built roads, a good wagon would last a farmer a life-time, but with the roads we have, a few seasons will knock the life out of the best wagon that can be built in this or any other country. To keep this country in wagons is a fearful expense now, to say nothing of harness that is wrecked and a large

amount of stock that is damaged and a great deal of it killed outright, tagging over the disagreeable roads of this country. The destruction of wagons, the wear and wreck of harness, and death to stock is not all by any means, but these bad roads cost the country the lives of many valuable citizens. Hundreds of good people have been killed in this country in the numerous and very frequent accidents occurring all over the country as a result of bad roads.

It would pay to build good roads from a strictly financial consideration, and if done by taxation would be a good investment for the citizens of the country in an increased value of the real estate of the country. The increase in the value of the property and real estate would amount to very much more than the cost of the roads.

Good roads are fine moralizers and civilizers in a country. Thousands of people are kept away from our churches every Sunday on account of the condition of the roads, and many who do attend church forget their professions, or lose their religion in the irritation and vexation caused by the bad roads they had to travel over. The bad roads of this country have been the direct cause of more profanity and crime than any other one thing.

"Can't You Trust Me?"

Exchange.]

There is in the Easter number of Harper's Bazar an illustration—a little shadowy picture—that must shake some women to the very soul, that surely some women can not look at for burning tears, writes Ella Higginson in West Shore. It is only a young man and young woman with their hands on each other's shoulders, their eyes looking deep into each other's souls. But beneath this picture are these words:

"Can't you trust me, Rose?"

There is the whole of some woman's life-story in that story—all the love, the doubt, the trusting again and again, the dumb sorrow, and the awful shrinking from that heart-breaking question: "Can't you trust me?"

Saddest of all hearts is that pure, true one that loves deeply and unselfishly, yet feels that the object of its affection can not rise to its own level. Too strong and unselfish to cast the unworthy one adrift for its own piece of mind, she keeps what gentle hold she may upon him by her tender influence, her pure love, her quiet self-denial.

For him this means a gay life apart from hers, and the proud happiness of knowing that the woman whom he really, in his selfish way, loves, belongs to him and is true to him. For her it means sleepless nights and lonely tears and endless prayers; it means a gradual wearing away of life in hurts and carelessness and forgotten attentions; it means sad lips and aching hearts and wistful eyes—eyes that are ever looking for, and ever shrinking from, some new hurt, some greater sorrow, or a repetition of that awful question: "Can't you trust me?"

To which she must answer always, with pale lips and aching heart:

"Yes, dear; yes."

THE only thing that the South cares for in connection with the negro exodus which certain northern papers have been wasting breath over, is that it is sorry for the negro. The negro is best off as he is, and while the South can easily spare him, he should not, for his own good, rush into bad company.